

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 06817 261419Z

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S E C R E T ANKARA 6817

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
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SUBJ: CYPRUS

1. FOLLOWING CRAWFORD CREDENTIAL DISCUSSION WITH FONMIN MORNING OF AUGUST 26 REPORTED SEPTTEL), HE TURNED TO "MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS." FIRST, WAS THE QUESTION OF WHERE WE WENT FROM HERE IN THE WAKE OF THE GREEK AND GREEK CYPRIOT REJECTIONS OF THE UK INITIATIVE TO GET AGREEMENT TO RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. OBVIOUSLY THE NEGOTIATIONS PICTURE WAS DISCOURAGING AND NOW, ADDITIONALLY, THERE WAS ON THE SCENE THE SOVIET PROPOSAL--WHICH THE GOT WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT ACCEPT. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ASKED WHETHER WASHINGTON WAS LIKELY TO COME UP WITH A NEW APPROACH WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO A RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. I SAID THAT, AS THE FONMIN KNEW, WE HAD OFFERED TO BE HELPFUL IN CONNECTION WITH GETTING MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY, AND CONTINUED TO BE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS IN THIS REGARD FROM ANY OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED. AT THE MOMENT, WE WERE ASSESSING THE RECENT AND UNHELPFUL DEVELOPMENTS, AND I WAS NOT, AS OF NOW, AWARE OF ANY NEW INITIATIVE WE MIGHT BE CONSIDERING. I DID SAY, THAT AS I HAD TOLD THE PRIMIN YESTEREAY, WE THOUGHT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO GET TALKS STARTED BETWEEN CLERIDES AND DENKTASH AND THAT THESE SHOULD GET INTO SUBSTANTIVE (AND NOT JUST HUMANITARIAN) DISCUSSIONS AS SOON

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ANKARA 06817 261419Z

AS POSSIBLE. GUNES EXPRESSED CONCURRANCE WITH WHAT THE PRIMIN

HAD TOLD ME YESTERDAY; NAMELY, THAT THE CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS WERE ALSO NOW OF KEY IMPORTANCE IN YOUR VIEW, AND SPECIFICALLY THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD GET INTO SUBSTANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. GUNES SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS PERSONALLY CONVINCED THAT REGARDLESS OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS, THE EFFORT TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE ISSUE WILL GO ON AND "THESE BILATERAL TALKS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT IN THEMSELVES TO HEAD THIS OFF". HE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE EFFORT OF INTERNATIONALIZE "WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CALENDAR," BY WHICH HE MEANT THE OPENING OF UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN VIEW OF ALL THIS, IT WAS, IN HIS JUDGMENT, - ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT GENEVA-TYPE TALKS BE RESUMED "IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS AND THAT AT THE LATEST, BEFORE THE SECOND HALF OF SEPTEMBER."

4. HE THEN SAID HE WANTED TO TOUCH ON "A SECOND IMPORTANT QUESTION." UP TO NOW, TURK EMPHASIS IN ALL ITS PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAD BEEN ON IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. OTHER STATES HAS ALSO STRESSED THIS, BUT SOME--PARTICULARLY NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES--HAD IN ADDITION EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF CYPRUS'S BEING NON-ALIGNED AND DE-MILITARIZED AS WELL.

5. TURKEY HAD NOT TAKEN A POSITION ON THIS, HE SAID, AND WILL NOT DO SO "UNTIL WE HAVE LEARNED THE US POSITION." WHAT MUST BE LOOKED AT CAREFULLY, HOWEVER, IS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER "GREECE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO, EVEN IF TEMPORARY, MAY NOT NOW HAVE ADDED SOME NEW FACTORS TO THE STRATEGICAL STRUCTURE OF CYPRUS."

6. I SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF HIS QUESTION, I WOULD NOT LIKE TO COMMENT WITHOUT FIRST CONFIRMING MY THOUGHTS WITH WASHINGTON. HE RESPONDED THAT IT WAS INDEED A VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION, ADDING THAT THE TAKING OF A POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT MIGHT MAKE "A LOT OF CHANGES IN THE MIDDLE EAST BALANCE." IN ANY EVENT, HE REPEATED, "WHILE I THINK WE MUST STUDY THE QUESTION CAREFULLY, WE WILL NOT TAKE A CLEAR AND DEFINITE POSITION WITHOUT FIRST HAVING CONSULTATIONS WITH USG."

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ANKARA 06817 261419Z

7. COMMENT: GUNES HAS FELT SOMEWHAT LEFT-OUT AS A RESULT OF MY REPEATED FORAYS DIRECTLY TO PRIMIN--ALTHOUGH I AM SURE, IN ALMOST ALL INSTANCES, HE HAS BEEN KEPT FULLY INFORMED. MOREOVER, GUNES, WHILE OBVIOUSLY NOT AUTHORITATIVE A SOURCE OF TURKISH THINKING AS THE PRIMIN, IS OCCASIONALLY A MORE CANDID ONE. FOR THESE REASONS, I THINK IT USEFUL TO KEEP A LOWER CASE DIALOGUE GOING WITH HIM, AND WOULD THEREFORE WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON FOREGOING. HIS "SECOND IMPORTANT QUESTION" HAS

IMPLICATIONS OF THE MOST OBVIOUS KIND, AND I AM PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS
TO HAVE PRECISE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS AS TO HOW TO RESPOND.
MACOMBER

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